

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 QUITO 01688 180643Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-11 H-02 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-15 OES-07
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 ITC-01 /132 W
-----038470 190253Z /61

R 171752Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7636

UNCLAS QUITO 1688

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, ETRD, EC
SUBJECT: FINANCE MINISTER BACKS OFF FROM IMMEDIATE PETROFUELS'
PRICE HIKE

REF: QUITO 1357

1. FINANCE MINISTER SANTIAGO SEVILLA ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY ON MARCH 15 THAT THE GOE WILL NOT RAISE PETROFUELS' PRICES FOR THE TIME BEING, WITHOUT FIRST CONSULTING WITH DIVERSE NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS. HE ALSO STATED THAT ONCE PUBLIC OPINION APPROVES THE MEASURE, A PRICE HIKE WILL FOLLOW IN 30 TO 60 DAYS. THE MINISTER GAVE ASSURANCES THAT THE GOE DOES NOT WANT A CONFRONTATION WITH THE PUBLIC, AND THAT THERE IS NO HURRY IN APPLYING THE PRICE HIKES.

2. SEVILLA MENTIONED OTHER POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES WHICH MIGHT BE APPLIED SOONER BY THE GOE. SUCH ALTERNATIVES INCLUDE A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO LIMIT GASOLINE CONSUMPTION, AS WELL AS THE ELIMINATION OF THE 1.88 SUCRE (25 SUCRES EQUAL 1 DOLLAR) TAX EXONERATION PER GALLON OF GASOLINE THAT MANY GOE INSTITUTIONS NOW ENJOY.

3. THE RECENT HIKE OF IMPORT TARIFFS ON TRUCKS,
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TRACTORS, AND OTHER HEAVY VEHICLES (SEE SEPTTEL),
ACCORDING TO SEVILLA, WAS DESIGNED PARTIALLY TO REDUCE
THE CONSUMPTION OF GASOLINE IN THE COUNTRY.
CORR

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, PRICES, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, ECONOMIC CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Format: TEL
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780354/aaaabtpv.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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